This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Who overcomes by force, hath overcome but half his foe.—Milton.

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EDITORIALS

Enforcing the Fair Labor Standards Act

Gradually employers throughout the United States are learning that the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 means what it says when it stipulates that employers subject to the act shall pay their employes not less than 25 cents an hour and shall limit their employment to 44 hours per week.

Most employers obey the act without governmental pressure. Others, however, seem to be unduly intoxicated in their subversive belief that the policy of paying low wages is their private and personal right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States against which statute law must not prevail.

The Powers Manufacturing Company of Waterloo, Iowa, is evidently one of the concerns which require legal pressure to convince them of the error of their illegal low-wage policy and the advisability of obeying the very reasonable wage stipulations imposed upon employers by Federal statute.

Following adequate evidence that the Powers Company was paying its employes less than the 25 cents an hour prescribed by the Fair Labor Standards Act, Elmer F. Andrews, Administrator of the Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division, informed Federal District Judge George C. Scott of the delinquency of the Waterloo company. Judge Scott thereupon issued an injunction permanently restraining the company from paying employes less than 25 cents an hour and from shipping its products in interstate commerce until the legal minimum wage is paid.

Announcing that this was the first permanent injunction restraining an employer from alleged violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act which has been in effect since October 24, 1938, officials of the Wage and Hour Division estimated that the company, which has approximately 175 employes on its payroll, would be required to pay in the neighborhood of $2,200 in back wages, this amount representing the difference between what the workers got and what they would have gotten under the legal rate of pay under the act since it became effective.

But Who Owns the Increased Output?

Chester C. Davis, a member of the Federal Reserve Board, told the Third Annual Farm Institute, at Des Moines, Iowa, that a general increase in the output of the industrial workers, coupled with profits for employers gauged by volume instead of high prices, would solve the farmers' economic problem. He said that under this plan working men and women would "seek higher income through continuous employment and expanded production rather than through the highest attainable wage for the minimum output."

This is an indirect way of saying that wage earners should work longer hours per day and more days per week, thus increasing the amount of commodities produced or services rendered ("expanded production") in place of existing wage rates for a definite number of hours work, and then "seek" higher annual wages.

Evidently Mr. Davis was thinking of the Biblical expression, "Seek and ye shall find." Unfortunately Biblical precepts of this Utopian type do not amount to much in determining wages under our present economic system. Usually higher income sought by wage earners is only secured by effective trade union organization even where statutory law stipulates higher pay. And a considerable portion of our wage earning population are as yet outside the protective wings of the trade union movement.

Moreover—and this is an important point which the increased output business interests never mention—all of the commodities produced and the services rendered by the more than forty million working men, working women and working children in the United States are the private property of individual and corporate employers. This applies, of course, to the increased output which the workers are urged to produce. The increase would all belong to the employers, and, barring effective trade union organization of their employes, would normally lodge in the pockets of the employers and be distributed in their totality to investors.

It is therefore appropriate in discussing wages under increased output to keep in mind the primary economic fact that the workers produce the increase, that the employers own it all, and that usually employers refuse to permit any of the increase to reach the pay envelopes of their employes without the persuasive element of strong well-disciplined unions typified by those affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

They Won't Do It

Increasing the purchasing power of low paid wage earners is generally recognized as being one of the fundamental principles the application of which will bring prosperity to industry. The difficulty of the remedy is that the increase must be provided by the employers in pay envelope contents for their employes. And so far employers manifest a definite disinclination to part company with any of their surplus funds for this commendable purpose.

A visualization of this question was presented by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins in an address before the recent Farm Institute at Des Moines, Iowa. She is reported as having said that if the small sum of one dollar a month per person were added to the incomes of the lowest paid groups in the United States during the next few years, the expenditure of that augmented purchasing power would raise the sale of commodities to levels never attained heretofore.

The remedy offered by Miss Perkins is valid. The only hitch in the program is the persistence of one of the smallest but most significant words in the English language—"if."

Expressed plainly and in more definite phraseology, Miss Perkins evidently meant to say this: If employers would increase wages only one dollar per month per person to workers in the lowest income groups for a number of years, the spending of this increase of one dollar per month would provide a very much larger market for goods. But the employers just won't do it.

Pensions for Oldsters

The political influence of elderly people whose capacity to produce commodities and render effective service in our system of production is still very large but who are barred from employment by those who own and operate industry continues to impress Federal legislators.

This influence was apparent when Senator Charles O. Andrews and Representatives J. Harding Peterson and A. Pat. Cannon, all of Florida, told the House Ways and Means Committee in the hearing on proposed amendments to the Social Security Act that persons past 60 years of age should be guaranteed a comfortable living by means of a $200 a month pension.

Senator Andrews said there was one ghost haunting every elderly person: the question of what would happen to him when he no longer could earn a living. Of course what the Senator meant was what would happen to the elderly person when employers would no longer permit him to earn a living.

Emphasizing the point that all of those eligible for pensions after 60 had contributed large amounts to support our governmental institutions, Mr. Andrews declared that "there ought to be some kind of dividend for men who have paid taxes for 40 years and own a part of the richest Government in the world."

Representative Peterson asserted that, despite our large national income, "today the old people probably need help more than at any other period in history." He said the plan for $200 a month pension would put money in circulation and stimulate business. It might result in some increase in living

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International Labor Office Probes Employers Ban on Elderly Workers

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Geneva, Switzerland.—The International Labor Office has been instructed by its Governing Body to make a further study of the question of "Discrimination Against Elderly Workers."

Decision to this effect was taken by the Governing Body at its recent quarterly meeting held in Geneva. At the same time, it instructed the office to submit to all of the fifty-eight Governments having membership in the ILO, copies of the preliminary study made last year, with a view to obtaining from the Governments complementary information and suggestions, which can be drafted into the new report.

Urging the need for a further study of the question, Robert J. Watt, United States Workers' representative, told the Governing Body that it was of particular interest in the United States where 40 per cent of all gainfully occupied workers are now over forty years of age.

Frederick W. Leggett, British Government representative, suggested that the ILO pay special attention to the causes of unemployment among elderly workers, and to possible remedies. He promised that his own Government would give all possible assistance to the office, and expressed the hope that other governments would do likewise.

Evert Kupers, Netherlands Workers' representative, estimated that of the 302,000 workers unemployed in the Netherlands on Oct. 1 last, 177,000 were between the ages of forty and sixty years. He asked the Employer members of the Governing Body to make an urgent appeal to all employers to help the cause of workers over forty.

Leon Jouhaux, French Workers' representative, stressed the need for statistics from all countries showing not only the number of unemployed workers over forty, but the industries from which older workers are most rapidly eliminated.

Joseph Hallsworth, British Workers' representative, discussed the effect of long spells of unemployment upon the skill of elderly workers, and asked that all the countries pool their knowledge in an effort to help find a solution to the problem.

I. L. O. Gains in Social Legislation Benefit the Workers in Many Countries

Seventy Conventions on Matters Affecting Working Men and Women Adopted by Conferences Composed of Representatives of the Workers, Employers and Governments Were Ratified by Member States During 1938, Wilson Says.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The wide activities and many achievements of the International Labor Organization of the League of Nations for working men and women throughout the entire world are stressed in a summary of the work of the Organization during 1938 made public by James Wilson, counselor of the I. L. O., through the Washington Branch of the International Labor Office.

Mr. Wilson, who was formerly president of the Pattern Makers League of America and a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, has been labor counselor for the International Labor Office for a number of years, devoting much of his time to acquainting the affiliates of the American Federation of Labor with the procedure and activities of the I. L. O.

The text of Mr. Wilson's statement follows:

Despite the political crisis, the activity of the International Labor Organization still further increased during the year 1938. Its June Conference, in which representatives of fifty nations and many European and overseas Ministers of Labor took part, was one of the best-attended and most interesting which have met at Geneva. Its good relations with Governments, employers' and workers' organisations have keen kept up and developed through regular and fruitful collaboration.

Requests of Governments for the technical assistance of the International Labor Office to prepare or revise their social legislation by taking into account the results achieved or experience gained by other countries, were more numerous than in previous years.

Finally, the International Labor Organization has carried on its regular work of research and information in all fields, continuing to study objectively the new problems everywhere created by the development of industry.

Winant Becomes Director

The year 1938 was marked by the resignation of Mr. Harold Butler, who had succeeded Albert Thomas as Director of the I.L.O. in 1932.

Mr. John Winant, Assistant Director, was appointed as Mr. Butler's successor with, as his Deputy Director, Mr. Edward Phelan, one of the original creators of the I.L.O., of which the permanent character at Geneva testifies to the continuity of the tradition of Albert Thomas. This appointment of Mr. Winant, who has played an important role in his country, as Governor of the State of New Hampshire and later as Chairman of the Social Security Board, emphasizes to the whole world the active participation of the United States in the Organisation.

American Labor Conference Called

The attendance at Geneva of Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, at the 1938 Session of the Conference, and the fact that, for the first time, the United States has ratified international Labour Conventions (to the number of five, including that on hours of work on board ship), also contribute to show the vigorous collaboration of the great Republic of North America.

This collaboration, moreover, has been common for all parts of the American Continent. As industry develops throughout the world, the urgent character of industrial and social problems is felt more and more in extra-European countries. It was emphatically demonstrated in a unanimous resolution of the International Labor Conference, which has led to the calling for November, 1939, of a Second Regional Conference of countries of America, similar to the one held at Santiago de Chile in 1936, which proved so useful. This Second American Labor Conference will be held at Havana on the generous invitation of the Government of Cuba.

Welcomed by Great Britain

In response to the invitation of the British Government, the Governing Body of the I.L.O. met last October in London. The warm welcome which its members received everywhere in Great Britain, the willing and active participation alike of the British Government, employers and workers, and the unanimously favourable comment in the press of all political tendencies, enhanced the importance of this proof of the attachment of the world's oldest industrial country, and one of its greatest, to the International Labor Organization. King George himself stressed the significance of the occasion in his speech from the throne on November 4.

Invited to Norway

Then again, the Norwegian Government has invited the Governing Body of the I.L.O. to hold its 1939 autumn session in Oslo. At the present time a delegation of the Governing Body is visiting South Africa on the invitation of the Government of the Union. Coming after the visits of Mr. Butler to Malaya, the Netherlands Indies, Ceylon, India and Egypt, these facts, by their very geographical diversity, show the interest that the activity of the International Labor Organization arouses in widely-varying regions of the world.

Seventy Conventions Ratified in 1938

This interest is also manifest in the ever-increasing number of ratifications

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A.F.L. Contracts With Hearst's Chicago Newspapers Benefit Editorial Employes

Higher Wages, Longer Vacations, Perpetual Renewal Clause, Arbitration Provision and Recognition of Reference Librarians Included in Agreement Covering Many Workers; A. F. of L. Affiliates Unite in Campaign to Defeat C. I. O. Guild's Scheme to Destroy Both Them and the American and Herald-Examiner.

Chicago, Ill. (AFLWNS).—Two recent developments in connection with the C. I. O. Chicago Newspaper Guild walkout of Dec. 5 against the Evening American and the Herald and Examiner, brought things to a climax.

The management of the American signed a contract with the Chicago Editorial Association, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, for editorial employes of that newspaper, and the employes of both newspapers joined together in a movement to put a stop to the wrecking efforts of the Guild.

A contract had previously been signed with the management of the Herald and Examiner. The American contract dates from Feb. 3, 1939, to Feb. 2, 1940, and continues in effect from year to year, subject to the Wagner National Labor Relations Act, but can be re-opened prior to the end of any fiscal year of the agreement with 60 days written notice by either party.

Provisions of A. F. of L. Agreement

Don DeMichaels, chairman of the negotiating committee of the American chapter, Chicago Editorial Association, A. F. of L. Local 21690, says of the contract:

"We have cracked several precedents set up by the C. I. O. Guild in its past agreements designed to benefit the largest groups of dues payers at the cost of smaller groups.

"We have obtained recognition of the reference room librarians as an integral part of editorial work and have obtained both raises and a better scale for them.

"We have obtained recognition of night workers' rights to a higher scale.

"We have obtained recognition of the right to a higher scale for employes with five years of service, some of whom may have been deprived of such income boosts in the past through no fault of their own.

"We have established the right of longer vacations for long-time employes, where such can be given without additional expense, for the first time.

"We have set up a program of arbitration designed to prevent future ten-

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Labor Law Program for North Dakota Outlined by Commissioner Martinson

Fair Labor Standards Act and Labor Relations Act Included In List of Eleven Bills Which State Legislature Will Be Urged to Pass.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Bismarck, North Dakota.—An important program of legislation for the benefit of working men and women in North Dakota is planned by the Labor Division of the Department of Agriculture and Labor in cooperation with the North Dakota State Federation of Labor, A. F. of L. affiliate, according to an announcement by H. R. Martinson, Labor Commissioner.

Included among the measures which the State Legislature is being urged to enact is the State Fair Labor Standards Bill, approved by the Fifth National Conference on Labor Legislation and distributed by the Division of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor.

Scope of Labor Standards Bill

The State Bill is modeled after the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. It is intended to apply the minimum wage, maximum hour and other provisions of the Federal Act to North Dakota industries. The bill covers all workers in the State, whether employed in interstate or intrastate industries, with the exception of agricultural workers, domestic workers in private homes, those engaged in executive or professional capacity, and employes of the Federal Government. The bill specifically provides that it applies to minimum wage rates only, leaving to collective bargaining the whole field of wage determination above the established minima.

Collective Bargaining Protected

In order to give increased statutory effect to the rights of trade unions the bill provides that "Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to interfere with, impede, or in any way diminish the right of employes to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing in order to establish wages in excess of the applicable minima under this Act, or to establish hours of work shorter than the applicable maxima under this Act."

Other labor measures which the Labor Division will urge the State Legislature to enact include:

Provisions of Wage Collection Bill

1. A wage collection law requiring every employer not later than five days after a discharge or lay-off (for more than one week) to pay the wages of such employes in full to the time of such discharge or lay-off; to pay employes who quit full wages up to the time of quitting at a date not later

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CLOTHING FIRM BARRED IN SALES TO WAR DEPT.

Eisner Company Charged With Falsifying Time Records to Cover Violations of Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William B. Grogan, examiner of the Public Contracts Division of the Department of Labor, ruled that the Sigmund Eisner Company of Red Bank, N. J., supplier of army uniforms and clothing, had falsified time cards of employes in order to cover up violations of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act. He recommended that because of this alleged fraud the concern should not receive any government contracts for three years.

The firm, it was ruled, was also indebted to the government for liquidated damages in the sum of $31,958.64. The company has twenty days in which to file an exception and to appeal to the Secretary of Labor to set aside the decision.

Time Cards Were Fraudulent

In his decision, Mr. Grogan said that the firm had permitted employes to work more than eight hours a day or forty hours a week without payment of overtime rates and had failed to pay the minimum wages of 37½ cents and 40 cents an hour required under the law.

According to the decision the company "admitted that the time cards did not show hours actually worked." The company has plants at Red Bank, South Amboy, Freehold and Union Beach, N. J.

"It is shown that the employes at each of the plants were under instructions from the party in charge at the plant to punch their time cards in such a way that the wages earned on a piece-rate basis divided by the hours of labor punched on the card would show an earning of at least 37½ cents per hour, regardless of the number of hours actually worked," the examiner stated. "It is also shown that the employes followed these instructions. These facts are admitted by the respondent."

Through J. Lester Eisner, general manager, the company said it did not know the records were being falsified, and he placed the blame for this on the plant supervisors. The examiner said that Mr. Eisner admitted, however, that he had read in The Red Bank Examiner, of June 4, 1937, an article criticizing his firm for failing to pay minimum wages.

"Mr. Eisner has stated that on reading the editorial he took no action to determine the truth of the charges made," said Mr. Grogan. "He explained his inaction by saying that he considered the editorial the act of a disgruntled editor actuated by malice. The charges are specific and serious. It is inconceivable that a general manager who had not previously taken the precaution to acquaint himself intimately with employment conditions in his plants would, after reading such editorial, have failed to make an immediate and thorough investigation of the truth of the charges made. Failure to do so can be attributed only to a knowledge of the truth and the facts recited in The Examiner's editorial, or to an utter indifference to the obligations of the respondent under the act."

162 STATIONS TO CARRY UNION LABEL BROADCAST

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—About March 10, approximately 162 radio stations will receive a program entitled "The Labor Parade" which is sponsored by the American Federation of Labor. The subject will be a dramatized sketch on the progress of the Union Label, Shop Card and Button.

I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department, has sent out notices to the secretaries of central labor bodies in various cities to ascertain the time of the broadcast and to notify all members of organized labor and their friends to listen in on this program.

A.F.L. DRAFTSMEN'S UNION NAMED BARGAINING AGENT

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—The New York State Labor Relations Board has certified the Guild-Local 66, International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions, an A. F. of L. affiliate, as the sole bargaining agent for all the drafting employes at the plant of the Law Pipe Railing Corp.

The Law Pipe Railing Corp. was taken before the State Labor Relations Board when they refused to recognize the Guild-Local 66 as representing their drafting employes. This firm is a member of the Allied Building Metal Industries, Inc., an employers association, which has constantly fought the union.

Negotiations have been started with the employer for a closed shop agreement.

Mr. Raimist, chairman of the Collective Bargaining and Labor Relations Committee, handled the cases before the State Labor Relations Board.

The State Labor Relations Board also certified the Guild-Local 66 as the sole bargaining agent for all the drafting employes at the plant of C. E. Halback & Co.

The firm of C. E. Halback & Co. was taken before the State Labor Relations Board when they refused to recognize the union as representing their drafting employes. Negotiations are now in progress with the employer for a closed shop agreement.

LAW TO FIX PRICE FOR HAIRCUTS CONSIDERED

Austin, Tex. (AFLWNS).—A bill to allow barbers, by agreement of 85 per cent of those employed within a county, to set minimum prices was passed by the House of Representatives and sent to the Senate.

The measure stipulates that no price fixing above 40 cents for a haircut shall be permitted, and permits barbers in towns of 1,000 or less population to charge 25 per cent less than the code price for larger communities in the county.

Provisions that the State barber board could enforce agreements to regulate hours of barber shop operation and prohibit advertising of prices charged were eliminated from the bill.

Evils of Private Police Systems Exposed by La Follette Committee

Senate Civil Liberties Group Holds That These Agencies Are Frequently Used by Employers to Destroy Trade Unions and Pervert Representative Government; Legislation Is Planned to Protect Civil Rights, Restrict Company Police and Prohibit Labor Espionage.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The report of the Civil Liberties Committee of the United States Senate on private police systems is a well documented study of the anti-labor functions performed by company police in the employ of the Harlan County Coal Operators Association, of Kentucky, the activities of sheriff's deputies in that county, and the activities of the police force of the Republic Steel Corporation in its plants in Ohio, New York and Michigan.

The Civil Liberties Committee consists of Senator Robert M. La Follette, Jr., of Wisconsin, chairman, and Senator Elbert D. Thomas, of Utah.

Proceeding under its authority "to investigate violations of the right of free speech and assembly and interference with the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively," the committee, following a thorough inquiry, reached the following general conclusions regarding private police systems:

Civil Rights Abridged

"The experiences in Harlan County, Ky., and in the industrial communities where Republic Steel Corporation operates, indicate clearly that where private police systems are used as instruments of anti-union policy, they (a) abridge and violate the civil liberties of workers and other individuals; (b) violate the rights of labor guaranteed by Federal statutes; (c) result in riots and bloodshed, causing loss of life and injury to persons and property; and (d) endanger the public safety.

Union Organization Prevented

"On the economic front, the use of private police systems as agents in employers' anti-union policy, cause disorganization of markets and interruptions in the free flow of commerce. The ruthless and brutal activities of armed private guards to prevent union organization (a) give unfair competitive advantage to those employers who oppress labor; (b) create bitterness between labor and management; (c) lead to strikes; and (d) cause interruptions in the flow of commerce.

"The use of private deputies in an anti-union campaign is inimical to the maintenance of orderly representative

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'Undesirable Aliens'

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The C. I. O. Industrial Union Council of San Francisco which functions under the supervision of the notorious alien Harry Bridges has protested the appointment of Fritz Wiedman as German counsel general in San Francisco. In the protest to the State Department Mr. Wiedman is called "an undesirable alien."

The difference in the alien status of Messrs. Wiedman and Bridges is noteworthy. Mr. Wiedman does not profess to be anything but a German temporarily employed in the consular service of his country. Mr. Bridges, on the other hand, is an Australian who seemingly enjoys his status as an alien. He has earned his livelihood in the United States for nearly twenty years but refuses to become a citizen of the land that feeds him.

Anyone is entitled to judge which of these two aliens is really "undesirable."

A. F. of L. Wants Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act Amended

Urges That $10,000 Exemption Be Reduced and That Vessels and Floating Equipment Be Included in Law Applying Labor Standards to Contractors Who Sell Supplies to Federal Government; State Laws Similar to Federal Act Are Recommended.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The annual convention of the American Federation of Labor at Houston, Texas, urged that the Walsh-Healey Act, which makes the eight-hour day and forty-hour week and minimum wages mandatory in the performance of Federal Government contracts for supplies, be amended to include contracts below the $10,000 minimum exempted under the present law and that vessels and floating equipment be brought under the scope of the measure. The convention also recommended the enactment of State laws based on the principle of the Federal Act.

The convention noted with approval the report of the A. F. of L. Executive Council that around two million workers have received direct benefits from the Walsh-Healey Act which "now covers all purchases of manufactured goods by the Government amounting to $10,000 or more with the exception of vessels for the merchant marine and large floating objects such as floating dry docks."

But to bring a larger number of workers under the protective provisions of the Act the convention recommended that "the officers of the American Federation of Labor assist the Departments principally affected by having the minimum contract price now provided for by law reduced to a substantially lower amount," and that the Act "be further amended so that all contracts entered into by governmental agencies for marine vessels or large floating objects should come under the prevailing wage provisions of the law."

In addition, the convention recommended that "State federations of labor consider the advisability of having State legislation enacted which would apply the principle of the prevailing wage to State purchases."

In its report to the convention on the administration and beneficial results of the Public Contracts Act, the Executive Council said:

Minimum Wage Applications

"The application of prevailing wage standards has been further expanded under the Walsh-Healey Act during the past year. Since the inception of the Act, minimum wage determinations have been made by the Secretary of Labor in the following sixteen industries:

"Men's Work Clothing, Cotton Garments and Allied Industries, Leather and Sheep-Lined Jackets, Work Gloves, Seamless Hosiery, Men's Neckwear, Men's Raincoats, Men's Hats and Caps, Men's Welt Shoes, Men's Underwear, Dimension Granite, Handkerchief, Envelope, Vitreous and Vitrified China, Luggage and Saddlery, Plate Glass.

"The lowest wage determination fixed by the Division was 32½ cents an hour in the South in Men's Underwear, and Dimension Granite; and the highest wage determination is for 67½ cents an hour in Men's Hat and Cap Industry.

"Since the Act became effective, 9,754 contracts from 11,402 sources subject to the Act were awarded for the purchase of commodities needed by the Government. They were valued at approximately one-half billion dollars ($549,180,355.03).

Damages Collected for Violations

"In the majority of inspections violations that have been found in the field have been rectified through instructions of the Division of Public Contracts. There have been eighty-six legal hearings for alleged violations and fifty-seven of these were settled without an appeal. Restitutions in the amount of $69,393 have been received

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C. I. O. Again Falsifies Facts Regarding Its Vaunted Membership

Arbitrary Refusal of Marine Engineers High Command to Permit a Ballot on Continued Affiliation Is Reported as Unanimous Vote In Favor of Lewis's Secessionists.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The C. I. O. publicity bureau reported with great eclat that the recent Washington, D. C., convention of the National Marine Engineers Beneficial Association had by unanimous vote decided to retain its C. I. O. affiliation.

Just how "unanimous" the seagoing marine engineers are for C. I. O. affiliation is aptly explained by the following resolution introduced on January 19, 1939, the fourth day's session of the convention:

Resolution No. 39. Jan. 19, 1939.

To the officers and representatives of the 63rd convention assembled:

WHEREAS, M. E. B. A. No. 79 (San Pedro, Calif.), by a secret referendum ballot circulated to determine the wishes of its membership on the question of affiliation with the C. I. O., found the membership 96 per cent opposed to such affiliation; and

WHEREAS, M. E. B. A. No. 41 (Portland, Ore.), also by a secret referendum ballot voted overwhelmingly against affiliation with the C. I. O.; and

WHEREAS, M. E. B. A. No. 97 (San Francisco, Calif.), in a recent secret referendum voted by majority against affiliation with the C. I. O.; and

WHEREAS, I can truthfully say we have found practically no member of the M. E. B. A. arriving at this port during the past year, whether from the East coast, Gulf, or other Pacific coast ports, who has not voiced opposition to our C. I. O. affiliation when the question was put to him; and

WHEREAS, it is our belief the National M. E. B. A. has lost prestige due to its present affiliation with the C. I. O.; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, This 63rd Convention of the National M. E. B. A. go on record in favor of a national secret referendum ballot on the question "Are you in favor of the National M. E. B. A. remaining affiliated with the C. I. O."; and be it further

RESOLVED, The members of the National M. E. B. A. be mailed ballots on this question within 30 days after the convention adjourns and the balloting shall continue for a period of four months.

Fraternally submitted,
DEANE CURTIS,
M.E.B.A. No. 41, Portland, Oregon.

On a point of order by Representative Trainer in convention procedure, the Chair ruled the resolution out of order.

From the foregoing it would appear that the only reason the M.E.B.A. is still in affiliation with the C. I. O. is because the expressed desire of the seagoing engineers for a referendum vote upon that question was ruled "out of order."

TWENTY BILLION DOLLARS ADDED INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY URGED

A. F. of L. Business Survey Says Constantly Increasing Long-Term Debt by Both the Government and Private Industry for Plant Expansion and Construction of Permanent Improvements "Is Healthy and Normal in a Growing Industrial Country" and Necessary for Increased Production of Commodities and Services and Improved Living Standards for Workers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The tremendous importance of encouraging the owners of billions of dollars of idle money locked up in banks and other financial institutions to invest their funds in industry for the purposes of plant expansion, increased production of wealth and the development of higher living standards for millions of American workers was recently stressed in the Monthly Survey of Business published by the American Federation of Labor.

The Survey held that this large increase in private debt could be supplemented by heavy increases in the public debt for building much-needed "low rent housing, schools, recreation centers, roads, hospitals and other services" without unduly enlarging the combined public and private debts, with the provision that the tremendously increased expenditures under the billions of dollars of added investments must be safeguarded by a National Planning Board composed of representatives of "labor, agriculture, consumers' groups, trade and finance."

"In planning to raise living standards we need to consider how the funds lying idle in our banks can best be invested," the Business Survey said.

"There is now more than $5,000,000,000 belonging to individuals and institutions which is seeking investment. In addition there are large idle balances in the hands of corporations which would create plant and equipment if warranted. Also the banks have excess reserves of $3,250,000,000 which could form a base for credit of over $20,000,000,000. By putting these funds to work we should increase the national income which would add still further to the funded capital available for investment. In fact our present investment in industry could be increased enormously without straining our credit structure.

Importance of Durable Goods Investment

"Investment in durable goods has always been necessary to raise industry to its highest levels. For when workers in industries producing machinery, buildings, automobiles, roads or materials for these are fully employed, they spend their incomes and automatically lift production in food, clothing and other non-durable goods industries. So we are concerned with investment in durable goods.

"Authorities who have studied American investments in durable goods note the fact that American industry in the last two decades has not needed or used large amounts of new investment comparable to the huge sums which created equipment for the power age.

"Our industrial plant, once built, has been maintained or enlarged and its machinery modernized chiefly out of the profits which firms have ploughed back into their business. Nor has any new industry yet arisen to commandeer huge amounts of new capital for industrial equipment.

Consumers Capital Expanded

"On the other hand we find that in industrial countries over the entire world the great durable goods investments of the power age are being used for production of consumers' durable goods. Against the investments in factories and machinery, mines, railroads and power lines which made mass production possible, we have today's investments in automobiles, houses, schools, public parks and buildings for consumers' use. The network of roads thrown across the country after 1920 exceeds in mileage the railroads built after 1840. This expansion from producers' to consumers' capital is typical of the power age, which is indeed the age of the consumer.

Government Investment Stressed

"In democratic countries, much of the investment which has created these durable consumers' goods was made through Government borrowing. The peoples of democratic countries are using their Governments to an increasing extent as the channel for investment in permanent improvements such as low rent housing, schools, recreation centers, roads, hospitals and other services.

"Increasing investment means increasing debt, for large scale investment, whether in Government work or private industry, cannot be made without large scale borrowing.

Increasing Long-Term Debt Favored

"Increasing long term debt is healthy and normal in a growing industrial country, for industrial progress is impossible without increasing investment.

"In the United States the total long term debt (or investment) of the American people, both Government and private, increased from $38,000,000,000 in 1913-14 to $75,000,000,000 in 1921 and $126,000,000,000 in 1929. Thus long term investment (or debt) increased by more than $6,000,000,000 per year in the 1920's.

"In the depression, from 1932 to 1937, our total long term debt increased by only $3,200,000,000 per year; the increase was almost entirely in Government, not private, debt. Thus it is clear that although we have added nearly $20,000,000,000 to our Federal debt from 1932 to date our borrowing increased less than in the prosperous '20's. We did not however invest enough in permanent long term improvements to keep industry busy to capacity. Our present per capita Federal debt is only half that of Great Britain.

"The Government borrowing power can well be used for investments to raise the general living standard if its use is carefully planned so as to stimulate private industry and to produce improvements of real value to the American people. What can be accomplished in a well planned, long-term program differs greatly from temporary 'pump-priming' * * *."

I. L. O. Gains in Social Legislation Benefit the Workers in Many Countries

(Continued from Page 1)

of International Labor Conventions by the various States. In 1938, 70 ratifications were registered, as against 35 in 1937 and 53 in 1936; and not since 1933 has there been a greater number of ratifications than this year.

Equally significant is the fact that the 1938 Session of the International Labor Conference, under the presidency of the Brazilian Minister of Labor, Industry and Commerce, had a total attendance practically the same as that of the 1937 Session, which was the greatest in point of numbers up to that date.

Questions Discussed at 1938 Conference

This fact is the more interesting as the agenda of this year's Conference did not involve any important decision. The only problem which might be disposed of by a single discussion saw a convention on the subject adopted under the most favourable conditions. This convention aims at making more easily comparable statistics in various countries on hours of work and wages.

With regard to the other questions before it, the 1938 Conference was of a preparatory nature. Its discussions were fruitful, and arranged for a definite decision to be taken in 1939 on: technical and vocational education and apprenticeship; the regulation of contracts of employment of indigenous workers; and the recruiting, placing and working conditions (equality of treatment) of migrant workers.

Hours of Work Considered

The discussions on the problems of hours of work, in a new form, were of a preliminary character only, and will be continued at the 1939 Session of the Conference in connection with the reduction of hours of work in industry, commerce and offices, and in coal mines; and also with regard to the regulation of hours of work and rest periods of professional drivers and their assistants engaged in road transport. In addition, the reduction of hours of work in railway transport will be studied in the first place by a "Technical Tripartite Meeting," convened for March 20, 1939.

Thus despite the armaments race which has retarded this reform, the normal activity of the Organization in this complex field of hours of work is being carried on.

In connection with public works, planned as a useful method of preventing unemployment and counteracting economic fluctuations, a new stage was reached by the convening of the first meeting of the new "International Public Works Committee," which is the first step towards effective international collaboration on this subject.

Problems of Farm Workers Surveyed

Two other important meetings opened up for the International Labor Organization new, or at least only partly explored, subjects for special study in the international field. In February, 1938, was held at Geneva the first session of the new Permanent Agricultural Committee, which is a real international parliament of the agricultural world, and which will aid the I.L.O. in its efforts to solve the social problems in agriculture.

It was noteworthy for the attendance of qualified experts, not only from Europe, but also from Argentina, Australia, Canada, India, Japan, Mexico and the United States. The problems of hours of work, wage-fixing and other conditions of work, which are of vital importance for agricultural wage-earners, were dealt with in a sympathetic manner which showed the general desire to better the conditions of agricultural workers so far as economic conditions may allow.

In March, 1938, a Conference at Geneva of Experts on the development of Migration for Settlement for the first time brought emigration and immigration countries into closer contact. It revealed new possibilities for migration movements, and contributed to the better understanding of all sides of the problem by certain countries chiefly concerned.

Mine Workers Interests Explored

The coal-mining industry was the subject during this year of two other most useful meetings: a Technical Tripartite Meeting on the reduction of Hours of Work in Coal Mines; and a Conference of Experts on Accident Risks in Coal Mines, which drew up the basis of a model safety code aimed at decreasing the risks of such accidents.

Also in connection with miners' interests—to protect their health as well as that of workers in stone, quarry workers, pottery workers and, in general, all workers exposed to the inhalation of dusts containing silica—a Conference of Experts, continuing the work of that which met in Johannesburg in 1930, studied measures to be taken against the pulmonary disease known as silicosis.

The legal regulation of the work of salaried employes; the safeguarding of the rights of interpretative artistes as regards broadcasting, television and the mechanical reproduction of sound; the social aspects of scientific management; and the difficult problems created in almost all countries by the investment of the funds of social insurance institutions, were also studied by special meetings.

I. L. O. Publications Reviewed

On all these questions, as for all those discussed by the International Labor Conference, the I.L.O., as usual, drew up thoroughly documented reports. Moreover, in addition to its regular publications—the weekly "Industrial and Labour Information," the monthly "National Labor Review," the "Year-Book," the "Year-Book of Labour Statistics," the "Industrial Safety Survey," the "Bibliography of Industrial Hygiene," the "International Survey of Legal Decisions on Labour Law," the "Legislative Series," etc.—it published special studies on the world textile industry, the workers' standard of living, the legal status of working women, labour courts, statistics of industrial accidents, the economic organisation of medical and pharmaceutical allowances in sickness insurance, labour problems in India and the East, the conditions of work of Indians in Peru, etc.

The number and variety of these reports and studies show that the scientific activity of the International Labor Office keeps pace with its general vitality, shown by the wide effect of its relations throughout the world and in the development of its work of social legislation.

LARGER OLD AGE PENSIONS ASKED BY ORGANIZED LABOR IN BRITAIN

Widows and Orphans Are Also Included in Measure Advocated by English Trade Unionists.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

London, England.—The urgency for the need of the adoption of British organized labor's plan to provide better pensions for the aged and widows and orphans in Great Britain was strikingly illustrated by Arthur Jenkins, Labor Member of Parliament for Pontypool, during a recent debate in the House of Commons.

After pointing out that in the country as a whole large numbers of old people are dependent on a paltry 10s. a week and are compelled to have recourse to the Poor Law, he gave some facts about the position in Monmouthshire and Glamorgan.

Less-Than-Living Pensions Cited

In Monmouthshire, he said, there were 4,354 pensioners of 65 and upwards, and 962 widows, whose pensions had to be supplemented from public assistance. That involved a cost of over £100,000 a year, or the equivalent of a rate of 2s. 2d. in the pound.

In the neighbouring county of Glamorgan the position was even worse. In that county the number of pensioners over 65 was 9,684, and the number of widows was 5,479. The rate liability in respect of public assistance to these people was equivalent to 2s. 6d. in the pound.

Provisions of Labor's Bill

"These two counties," said Mr. Jenkins, "constitute virtually the Distressed Area of South Wales. What is the use of talking about the relief given under the Special Areas Act, when the money is taken from the ratepayers in this way? In these two counties there are more than 20,000 people who have pensions and are dependent on public assistance, and it is high time that the Government took action to save them from trudging to the public assistance officer week by week."

The pension plan commended by Mr. Jenkins will increase the old age pension to £1 a week and make it conditional on retirement from all except spare-time work with earnings up to about £1 a week.

Married couples, where the husband is 65 or over, and the wife is 55 or over, will receive 35s. a week.

It will also be made possible for people covered by the plan to increase their pensions or to secure payments before 65 if they desire, by additional contributions.

All people of 60 and over who have been out of work for some time and are receiving unemployment assistance will—if the U.A.B. certifies that they are not likely to get work again—receive the pension as if they were 65.

Widows of insured men will be helped to give their children a better chance in life. The weekly allowances for their children will be increased from 5s. to 7s. 6d. for the first child, and from 3s. to 5s. for each other child. Orphans' allowances will be increased from 7s. 6d. to 10s. a week.

Widows whose husbands died before 1925, and who now lose their pension when all their children have left school, will continue to receive their pension.

The pension plan sponsored by British organized labor would mean that the vast majority of workers in Britain will be assured of a reasonably comfortable retirement. It would also help to ease the unemployment problem, as the retirement of older workers would find employment for a large number of younger workers.

The present "National" Government in England has, up to date, refused to adopt the commendable pension measure advocated by the organized labor movement in Great Britain. Labor officials are confident, however, that the strength of the trade unions will be materially increased in the next Parliament.

How the Company Union Is Operated To Deprive Workers of Their Rights

Kansas City Firm Used Espionage on the Union Activities of Its Employes and Engaged the Services of Detective Agencies For That Purpose; Company's Officials Were Active Members of "Citizens' Protective Council" Formed by Employers to Fight Organization of Workers For Purpose of Collective Bargaining.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The National Labor Relations Act prohibits employers from giving financial support to or otherwise promoting company unions.

Despite this mandatory provision of the Act, practically every week brings to light some employers who are evidently determined to continue this unfair labor practice.

A revelation of the continuance of the company union monstrosity was recently revealed by the National Labor Relations Board in connection with its proposed order requiring the Kansas City Power and Light Company of Kansas City, Missouri, to bring to an end a union which it formed and dominated for a number of years in a concerted effort to prevent its employes from organizing in a bona fide union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

In its investigation of the complaint against the Power and Light Company the Board discovered that the company had systematically employed labor spies as regular employes. The spies joined organizations of the company's workers and made reports with regard to their union membership and activities.

As an illustration of the type of opposition which organized labor is compelled to meet in employers who oppose the reasonable provisions of the National Labor Relations Act and make use of detective agencies to hamstring bona fide labor organizations, the case of the Kansas City Power and Light Company is especially instructive.

The company union was called the Association of Employes of the Kansas City Light & Power Company, which the Labor Board found to be "under company domination," and ordered the company "to cease giving effect to a closed shop contract made between the company and the Association in 1937."

Scope of Board's Order

"The company's contract with the Association was made July 3, 1937, and was to run for three years," the Labor Board said. "It provided for a check-off of Association dues. The closed shop clause was added November 1, 1937. On its finding that the contract is made with an organization created, supported and dominated by the employer, and hence invalid on its face, the Board requires that the company reimburse employes for amounts deducted from their wages under the check-off.

"The company is also ordered to end espionage on the union activities of its employes and to cease from engaging the services of detective agencies for that purpose.

"Of the eighteen cases of alleged discriminatory discharge considered at the Kansas City hearing, the Board upheld the complaint in fourteen and dismissed as to four. The order requires reinstatement of thirteen discharged workers with back pay and the transference of one back to his former position.

"Kansas City Light & Power Company is a Missouri Corporation engaged in the production and distribution of electricity to consumers within an area of 2,580 square miles in Missouri and 1,225 square miles in Kansas. Its total earnings during 1936 were $14,808,614.25. It employs approximately 1,700 persons.

Established Company Union in 1933

"The proposed findings state that the company in 1933 established among its employes a company-dominated labor organization known as Employes' Representation Plan. This Plan continued until the spring of 1937. The company admitted that it had contributed financial support to it. After the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Act, the company claimed that it abandoned the Plan and that it played no part in the formation of a very similar organization known as Association of Employes of Kansas City Power & Light Company, which appeared on the scene immediately thereafter." The proposed findings reject this contention, stating:

Continued Scheme Despite Labor Act

"The undisputed facts establish that the respondent dominated and interfered with the formation and administration of the Plan and contributed financial and other support to it.

"The respondent's entire course of the conduct, after it realized in April, 1937, that it could no longer lawfully continue its participation in the Plan, shows that it was the desire and intent of the respondent to maintain its domination over the organization representing its employes for the purposes of collective bargaining by continuing the Plan, with certain changes, under a new name.

Enrolled Detectives as Employes

"The acts and conduct of the organizers and leaders of the Association confirm this conclusion. After the decisions of the Supreme Court in April, 1937, the respondent did not notify the bulk of its employes that it was abandoning the Plan, but permitted them to assume that it was still continuing. In contrast to the widespread publicity which it gave the establishment of the Plan among its employes, the respondent, in a most informal and almost furtive manner gave verbal notice that it was abandoning the Plan to only a small number of employes who had been employe-representatives under the Plan.

"These employes played leading parts in transforming the Plan into the Association. . . . The constitution and organizational structure of the Association show that it is a continuation of the Plan with slight modifications. The structure of the Association and the Plan are almost identical."

"The proposed findings state," the Labor Board continued, "that the company employed labor spies from the Ahner Detective Agency and the National Detective Agency. These spies were enrolled as regular employes of the company. They joined various labor organizations of the employes and made reports concerning the membership and activities of the employes.

"The Board finds from evidence at the hearing that in 1934 Joseph F. Porter, Sr., president of the company, was one of the six incorporators of the Kansas City Citizens' Protective Council, Inc., and that two vice presidents of the company, Chester T. Smith and Alec B. Bettis, are members of the Council's Executive Committee. This organization, the Board finds, placed full-page anti-union advertisements in Kansas City newspapers and issued bulletins to employes urging them to present a united front against the organization of their employes for the purposes of collective bargaining."

Aided "Citizens Protective Council"

The proposed findings concluded:

"The purpose of the Council is to discourage the self-organization of employes in Kansas City and its activities, as shown above, are directed toward that end. . . . By its connection with and assistance to the Council, and by its approval of the activities of the Council designed to dissuade employes in Kansas City from organizing for the purposes of collective bargaining and to persuade employers in Kansas City to prevent self-organization by their employes, the respondent has shown that its attitude toward the self-organization of employes is one of aggressive hostility."

BIG HIGHWAY "SUBSIDY" REVEALED BY SURVEY

Group of Engineers Claims Billions of Dollars Have Been Paid by the Public in Taxes to Benefit Trucking Industry.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

An interesting and evidently instructive element in the controversy between corporations who own and operate the railroads in the United States and those who own and operate highway transport industries is the report of three highway engineers made for the Association of American Railroads that the industries engaged in highway transportation were subsidized by Federal and State Governments by almost $10,000,000,000 during the 12 years ending in 1932, while the railroad corporations engaged in providing railroad transportation were required to furnish and improve their own roadbeds.

The railroad corporations contend that this relatively free highway for trucking interests enables them to cut transportation rates below the figures that are profitable for the railroads, but that the people more than make up for this decrease by the tremendous amount they are required to pay for the maintenance of public highways.

Reducing the subsidy to an easily comprehensible figure the engineers estimate that public carrier trucks of three tons capacity and up are subsidized from $876 to $2,047 a year, and that for 1932 and succeeding years up to 1937 the annual subsidy amounted to $682,000,000, which the highway transport services should have paid as their equitable share of the cost of keeping up the highways in addition to the various road taxes and gasoline taxes actually levied.

The railroad owners declare that the trucking interests should pay their equitable portion of the cost of building and maintaining highways, just as the railroads are required to build and maintain the railways. If this were done, the railroad owners claim that much of their financial difficulty would be liquidated.

LOAN SHARKS ARE AIDED BY TEXAS COURT RULING

Austin, Tex. (AFLWNS).—The difficulties that municipalities in Texas experience in protecting their citizens against loan sharks is reflected in the decision of the State Supreme Court holding unconstitutional an ordinance designed for this purpose passed by the city of Fort Worth. The ordinance provided penalties for those who charge excess interest. The Supreme Court held that only the State Legislature has the power to provide punishment for those found guilty of charging extortionate interest rates.

PENSIONS HELD NECESSARY BECAUSE OF LOW INCOMES

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—Less than a decent living income for large groups of American citizens does not tend to strengthen the democratic system of government. This was the view expressed by Dr. Francis E. Townsend before the House Ways and Means Committee in urging a pension up to $200 a month to persons over 60 years of age.

Declaring that poverty is the birthplace of subversive agitation against the profit system, he said something must be done to get the low-income section of the population where they will derive some benefit from the profit system.

He feared the American form of government was menaced "if we can't establish a higher standard of living for the submerged one-half of our people than $40 a month."

The Ways and Means Committee is studying proposals to broaden the provisions of the Social Security Act.

ICE FIRMS WANT JUDGE TO ENJOIN CLOSED SHOP

Houston, Texas (AFLWNS).—Effective trade union organization is not regarded favorably by 17 Houston ice manufacturers who filed suit in the office of the District Clerk here to enjoin Ice Drivers and Handlers Local Union No. 509 from enforcing the rule recently adopted that all ice route drivers, peddlers, distributors or any other persons purchasing ice for re-sale must have a paid-up working card in the local or a permit card issued by the local.

The manufacturers claim that no labor dispute is involved because the purchasers of ice for re-sale are not their employes. In addition, they asserted that the attempt of the union to restrict purchases of ice from manufacturers to union members is an attempt to form an illegal combination in restraint of trade and to abolish competition by the creation of a monopoly.

The ice manufacturers asked for an injunction forbidding the union to enforce the order and forbidding picketing.

THOMPSON CAFES SIGN AFL PAY BOOST PACT

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—Local No. 302 of the Cafeteria Employes Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announced the negotiation of an agreement with the John R. Thompson Company providing wage increases of from $1 to $4 a week for employes of the Thompson cafeteria chain. It was stated that about 90 per cent of the 250 workers will share in the increases.

1939 A.F.L. CONVENTION TO MEET IN CINCINNATI

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

In accordance with authority conveyed by the Constitution of the American Federation of Labor, the Executive Council of the Federation at its recent meeting at Miami, Florida, decided to hold the 1939 convention of the A. F. of L. in Cincinnati, Ohio, instead of San Francisco, California, which was voted as the convention city by the 1938 conention.

EDITORIALS

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costs, but the element of social justice involved in providing for the elderly should be considered even though it did raise the cost of living.

Representative Cannon expressed his belief that the $200 a month pension would "abolish the need and necessity of poorhouses," which he characterized as "eyesores on civilization." He said the enactment of the pension legislation would be justified on that ground alone.

Much of the insistent and growing demand for pensions for elderly people is rooted in the policy of many employers to discriminate against the employment of middle-aged workers, who are thus compulsorily relegated to the unemployed army despite their mental and physical ability to produce wealth and perform service.

When employers refuse to permit hundreds of thousands of able-bodied working men and women to earn a living, pensions adequate to support them in comfort are absolutely imperative. Under our system of representative government based on the franchise for all adults, it is inevitable that the victims of this discrimination should use their political power to secure by legislation the essential justice denied them by our economic dictators.

A.F.L. Contracts With Hearst's Chicago Newspapers Benefit Editorial Employes

(Continued from Page 1)

sion and upsets, and the constant peril of wage loss due to unjustified and illegal strikes.

"We believe that our perpetual-renewal clause, which can be eliminated at any time on a year's notice, is the best assurance of receiving justified contractual benefits ever provided in a labor contract. It is a Theodore Roosevelt 'big stick' which is ever handy to influence favorable consideration and which we hope never to have to use. No worker wants to strike if he can improve his conditions peacefully.

"We have brought back the editorial department into the A. F. of L. fold, from which it was stolen by C. I. O. plotters on A. F. of L. payrolls, an act committed against the wishes and judgment of the real majority."

Larry Kelly, president of the Chicago Editorial Association, said of the contract:

"The arbitration clause is an important advance. There is also no danger of the present leadership of our union ever forcing the workers out of their jobs without democratic vote of the entire membership and without first making every possible effort at peaceful settlement of disputes."

A.F.L. Unions Block C.I.O. Scheme to Destroy Hearst Papers

Even while the negotiations were going on, another movement was gathering force. Its first evidence was originated by members of the American-Herald and Examiner chapel of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16.

The compositors had been becoming more and more incensed with the efforts of the striking Newspaper Guild to pull out advertising and hurt circulation. Past experience had taught them that the less business a paper did, the fewer situations it could provide for their union members.

On top of that, they were getting more and more angry at being called "scab" by hired pickets, put on the picket line by the Guild for "two bits and hot coffee."

The compositors got up a message addressed to advertisers and readers, calling attention to the fact that the persons signing were A. F. of L. members, working under union conditions, and patronized advertisers in the two papers.

The idea spread. In a short time every department of the two papers clamored for a chance to sign and participate in the message. The hundreds of names, representing every union in the papers' various divisions, are a forceful answer to the lies spread by a handful (less than 250) of Guildsmen, some of whom had been employes less than a year.

C. I. O. Falsehoods Exposed

At the same time, other departments, which had been irked equally as much by the attempts at destruction, began talking of fighting back. The compositors' statement started something. Each union decided to join the fight.

Representatives of the old mechanical unions, the younger Newspaper Commercial Associates and the Chicago Editorial Association met. They agreed that the time had come to turn the C. I. O. Guild's own weapons to their own use.

They decided to start a campaign of their own, addressed to advertisers, to the public, and to their fellow A. F. of L. unionists in all parts of the country. No lies, no propaganda, no threats; merely statements of fact to expose the weaknesses and falsity of the C. I. O. Guild's trumped-up job-security strike.

Guild Seeks Destruction of A. F. of L. Unions

The C. I. O. Guild boasts that it has destroyed or weakened every newspaper with which it has had dispute. Its sabotage is carried on even while its members are on the payroll; it carefully avoids looking too closely into the fate of its own dues-paying members after their jobs vanish. It never even refers to the lost jobs of compositors, pressmen, mailers and other A. F. of L. union victims of its hate.

It must be emphasized here that the fight is not between Hearst and "abused" workers. Men earning from $50 to more than $100 a week cannot honestly be called downtrodden.

Actually, the fight is an effort on the part of the C. I. O. Guild to overthrow old, established A. F. of L. unions by boring from within, by taking in youngsters in A. F. of L. departments and using them as a wedge in the C. I. O.'s eventual drive to absorb old craft unions and to bleed them for money in spreading its power over all unskilled and semi-skilled labor.

As to the campaign. A series of letters and bulletins are being sent out to advertisers, in which it is pointed out that 2,974 employes with an annual payroll of $8,000,000, represent a market that no advertiser can ignore.

Through the Chicago Federation of Labor the union employes of the two newspapers are asking every A. F. of L. member in the city to help stop the drive of the C. I. O. to destroy their jobs.

Labor Law Program for North Dakota Outlined by Commissioner Martinson

(Continued from Page 1)

than the next regular pay day and to pay striking employes at the next regular pay day after the strike their wages in full to the time the employes ceased working.

2. A State labor relations law applying the principles of the National Labor Relations Act to industries limited to North Dakota.

Mediation of Labor Disputes Planned

3. A mediation and conciliation law designed to encourage the settlement of labor disputes by mediation and voluntary arbitration and conferring upon the State Department of Agriculture and Labor powers of mediation in connection therewith.

4. A teachers tenure law establishing a probationary period of two years of consecutive employment by the same school board with a provision against discharge of teachers except for causes set forth in the bill. Charges must be in writing, and both parties are entitled to be represented by counsel at the hearings.

5. A boiler inspection law creating a department of boiler inspection in the Department of Agriculture and Labor with power to appoint inspectors to inspect all steam boilers and pressure vessels in use in the State.

Painters-Carpenters Licensing Bill

6. A painters' licensing law providing for the licensing of painters, rules and regulations for examinations, license fees, etc. Legislation covering this subject is approved by organizations of both journeymen painters and master painters.

7. A carpenters licensing law based on recommendations made by various carpenters unions.

8. Amending the State unemployment insurance law so as to include employes of one or more employers. The present law is limited to employers of eight or more workers in twenty weeks.

9. Extending the coverage of the workmen's compensation act to railway clerks.

10. Establishment of a safety and health code.

11. Provision for a State safety inspector.

Cooperation of Organized Labor Praised

In announcing this program of labor legislation to be presented to the State Legislature with the recommendation that it be enacted into law, H. R. Martinson, Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Labor, expressed his "earnest appreciation of the support and cooperation accorded the Labor Department during the past two years by Organized Labor of North Dakota," adding:

"With this continued support and cooperation I know we can complete the job of building a Labor Department in North Dakota which will serve the best interests of Labor and thereby the best interests of all citizens in North Dakota."

Evils of Private Police Systems Exposed by La Follette Committee

(Continued from Page 1)

government. It leads to (a) private usurpation of public authority; (b) corruption of public officials; (c) oppression of large groups of citizens under the authority of the State; and (d) perversion of representative government."

Legislative Recommendations

To remedy these evils the committee made the following legislative recommendations to Congress:

"The functions of private police systems must be restricted to the protection of plant and property.

"Employers using the channels of interstate commerce should not be permitted to spread and perpetuate a system of repressing the civil rights guaranteed by the Federal Constitution and Federal legislation. When company-controlled police systems cover several States and affect the activities of thousands of workers, it is the place of the Federal Government to intervene.

Company Police Must Be Curbed

"In the interest of industrial peace and the uninterrupted functioning of the natural economic system, it is necessary that Federal action confine company police systems to their proper duty of protecting plant and property.

"In recommending legislation to correct the evils of company police systems the committee is scrupulous not to interfere with the right of the employer to police his premises or employ persons for the legitimate functions of protection.

"The committee does not feel that at this time the Congress should undertake detailed regulation of the personnel and conduct of the police systems of employers. Rather it should define those practices which have led to the infringement of civil liberties and industrial disorder and make their commission an offense.

"In only one respect does it seem advisable to regulate the personnel which employers may hire, and that is to prohibit the employment as armed guards of persons who have previous criminal records showing a tendency toward violence or the dangerous use of deadly weapons.

Ban on Labor Espionage Urged

"Legislative remedies, in the opinion of the committee, should be aimed to prohibit the practice of labor espionage and the shadowing, coercion, and intimidation of workers in ordinary times, and to restrict company police to company property during times of strike.

"A statutory prohibition of these practices by private police systems, carefully defined, will also cover the similar practices of detective and strikebreaking agencies. To this end the committee is drafting appropriate legislation shortly to be introduced in Congress."

A. F. of L. Wants Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act Amended

(Continued from Page 1)

from employers by the Public Contracts Division and distributed to employes.

"The 8-hour day and the 40-hour week with an overtime rate of time and one-half for all hours in excess of all daily and weekly limits set by the law, constitute the standards already set by the Act for all those subject to the jurisdiction of the Act. Only minimum wages call for administrative determination.

"To furnish a basis for minimum wage determinations, the Research Section of the Division of Public Contracts surveyed sixty-four industries or groups of related industries during the past year. In these studies Machinery and Allied Products, Electrical Machinery, Apparatus and Supplies, and other industrial groups, each with a number of large divisions, have been considered as single units.

2,000,000 Workers Directly Affected

"Wage determinations have been scheduled for nineteen industries. Panel conferences and hearings have been held for thirty-one other industries. The Public Contracts Board has proposed wage determinations for seventeen of these industries, which are being currently studied. During the next two months panels and conferences are scheduled for thirty-three industries.

"It is estimated that over 2,000,000 workers have been directly affected and almost 28 per cent of the total number of manufacturing employes in the United States have received the benefits of the Act."